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on Feb. 29, 2000  
By [Signature]

L. Park  
5-8-00  
#3/Pat  
Andt-B

PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. S-3-1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: )  
)  
RONALD A. UNDERWOOD et al. )  
)  
)  
Application No.: *unassigned* )  
)  
Filed: *herewith* )  
)  
For: METHODS FOR ELECTROSURGICAL )  
TISSUE CONTRACTION WITHIN THE SPINE )  
)

Examiner: *unassigned*  
Art Unit: *unassigned*  
**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before substantive examination, please amend the subject application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the title and add the following new title:

--METHODS FOR ELECTROSURGICAL TISSUE CONTRACTION WITHIN THE SPINE--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please delete claims 1-31. Please add new claims 32- 47.

32  
--32. (New) A method for treating tissue within a patient's spine comprising:

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